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Mr. *Cooper's*

S E R M O N

Occasioned by the Reduction of
QUEBEC.





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S E R M O N

Preached before His EXCELLENCY

THOMAS POWNALL, Esq;

Captain-General and Governor in Chief,

The Honourable His Majesty's COUNCIL

and House of REPRESENTATIVES,

Of the Province of the

Massachusetts-Bay in New-England,

OCTOBER 16th 1759.

Upon Occasion of the Success of His
Majesty's Arms in the Reduction of

QUEBEC.

By SAMUEL COOPER, A. M.

Pastor of a Church in *Boston*.

BOSTON : NEW-ENGLAND ;

Printed by GREEN & RUSSELL, and EDES & GILL, by
Order of His Excellency the GOVERNOR, and
both HOUSES of ASSEMBLY.

In Council, October 17, 1759.

IT being recommended to the Board by His Excellency the GOVERNOR, that the Thanks of the Court be given to the Reverend Mr. COOPER, for his Sermon preached Yesterday to the General Court, and to desire a Copy thereof for the Press.

Voted, That JACOB WENDELL and WILLIAM BRATTLE, Esqrs. with such as the Honourable House shall join, be a Committee to wait upon the Rev'd Mr. COOPER with the Thanks of this Court for his Sermon preached Yesterday before them, and to desire a Copy for the Press.

Sent down for Concurrence,



A. COOPER, Secr'y.

In the House of REPRESENTATIVES,
October 17, 1759.

READ and Concurred, and the Members of the Town of *Boston*, are joined in the Affair.

Attest. ROLAND COTTON, Cler. Dom. Rep,
Consented to,

T. POWNALL,

~~DEDICATION~~
To His EXCELLENCY

Thomas Pownall, Esq;

Captain-General and Governor in
Chief, in and over his Majesty's
Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*
in *New-England*, and Vice-Admi-
ral of the same.

S I R,

N O one can be insensible how
largely your Excellency par-
takes in the universal Joy, oc-
casioned by the late happy Success
with which it has pleased Heaven to
crown his Majesty's Arms in *North-*
America, particularly in the Reducti-
on of the Capital of *Canada*. — An
ardent Zeal for the Honour and In-
terest of the Best of Kings ; a tho-
rough

vi DEDICATION.

rough Sense of the Importance of the *American* Service to the Glory of His Reign, and the Prosperity of His whole Dominion ; and a generous Concern for the Safety and Happiness of the People over whom you preside, are Principles that must render you peculiarly interested in this great Event, as they have evidently formed the Spirit of your Administration.

You have had the Joy to see your incessant Cares and Endeavours for the interior Welfare of your Province, and the Security of its exposed Territories, happily succeeded. A respectable Fortres, constructed under your Excellency's Eye, and well garrisoned, has given His Majesty the firm Possession of the important

DEDICATION. vii

portant Country of *Penobscot* ; a Part of the Province till now commanded by a savage Enemy, the Scourge and Terror of our Eastern Frontier. You have also found the great and singular Services to His Majesty's general Cause, proposed by your Excellency, and from which your Attention has never been diverted, adopted by the other Branches of the Legislature with a Resolution and Zeal answerable to the Importance of the Occasion, and to the Warmth of your own Wishes and Recommendations.

Who could have thought that this single Province, exhausted as it was by former Exertions, and checked by repeated Disappointments, would have been able, besides
furnishing

furnishing it's own Garrison and Marine Supplies, to augment His Majesty's Forces for two Years successively with little less than seven Thousand Men! Such are the Services that mark your Administration! Such a Proof has it exhibited that a limited Government, happily administered, can command in uncommon Exigencies, a greater Aid from the People than the most unbounded Despotism.

-PART of the Troops of this Province raised by Your Excellency, have had the Honor to be engaged in the Western Service, and to contribute to the important Acquisitions that have there crowned the *British* Arms; the rest, though they would gladly have shared the Dangers and
 Glory

DEDICATION. ix

Glory of the Army employed against *Quebec*, have from a Regard to His Majesty's greater Service, chearfully supplied in the Garrisons of *Louisbourg*, and *Nova-Scotia*, the Place of some of those veteran *British* Regiments, by whose Valor the Conquest of that *American* Carthage was obtain'd. In this View of Things, I may congratulate your Excellency, the Honourable Council, and House of Representatives, and this whole Province, not only as rejoicing in the Success, but as claiming also a Share in the Merit of these great Services,

THE Burden which such surprising Exertions have created must necessarily be great ; and yet you have seen it borne with Chearfulness

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* DEDICATION.

by People of every Rank. Happy also must your Excellency be in an Assurance, that your unwearied* *Endeavours to forward His Majesty's Service, in a Province of so much Importance, and which by it's exemplary Aids has influenced others, have been so graciously receiv'd by His Majesty; and that the many Marks of your Attention and Zeal for the King's Service, have met with His Majesty's most particular Approbation.*

WHEN our Hearts overflowed with Joy at the News of the Conquest of *Quebec*, your Excellency with both Houses, thought proper to point our Attention to the Providence of God, and to order that the civil

* Letter from the Right Hon. Mr. Secretary PITT, laid before the Court.

DEDICATION. xi

civil Demonstrations of Loyalty and Gladness upon this Event, should be preceeded by solemn Praise and Thanksgiving to that Being, whose Kingdom ruleth over all.

MAY the God of Heaven whom you have thus honour'd, preserve the happy Harmony among the several Branches of the Legislature of this Province ; distinguish with His Influence and Blessing your Excellency's whole Administration ; and continue to advance the British Arms, till our Security shall be established upon the most lasting Foundations !

I am with great Respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient,

and very humble Servant,

SAMUEL COOPER.

DEDICATION

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Gladness upon this Event, should be
preceded by solemn Fasting and
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Your Excellency's most obedient

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SAMUEL COOPER.

lighted to awaken in us a more than com-
mon sense of his infinite uncontrollable
Dominion, our Dependence upon him,
and our Obligations to him : and of
which we ought to make this religious
SERMON, &c.
of Impression upon our Occasions, not so
regard the Work of the Lord and the
Operation of his Word.

WITHOUGHT ENTER UPON A PARTICULAR
Explanation of the several Parts of the
Text, it leads us to consider, the Power
--- *Thy Saints shall bless Thee : they shall
speak of the Glory of thy Kingdom, and
talk of thy Power : to make known to the
Sons of Men his mighty Acts.*---

THE common and ordinary Ef-
fects which we behold in the
World around us, demonstrate
the Being and universal Providence of
God. But there are some special Dispen-
sations, and great Events, which have a
natural Tendency, and doubtless were de-
sign'd

sign'd to awaken in us a more than common Sense of his supreme uncontrollable Dominion, our Dependance upon him, and our Obligations to him ; and of which we ought to make this religious Improvement. For it must be the Height of Impiety upon such Occasions, " not to regard the Work of the Lord and the Operation of his Hand."

WITHOUT entring upon a particular Explanation of the several Parts of the Text, it leads us to consider, the Power and Dominion of God ; some of his mighty Acts in Favour of the Church in general, and of our Nation and Land in particular ; especially that Instance of his Power and Grace in which we are now rejoicing ; and the religious Acknowledgements and Praises which all this demands from us.

THE Power of God is absolute and unlimited ; extending to every Thing possible ; to every Thing that does not imply Weakness or Imperfection in the Agent.

Agent. He is the one self-existent Being, from whom all other Beings, and all the Powers which they possess are derived, and upon whose Influence they altogether depend for the Exertion of these Powers. Nothing therefore can oppose the Execution of his Designs; no Being can make any Manner of Resistance to the Operations of his Hand. The combined Force of all created Nature when compar'd to his Energy, "is as Nothing, and less than Nothing and Vanity."

THE unlimited Power of God is essential to his Being, and like himself is present in every Place; He can then as easily do all Things, as any Thing; as easily sustain the Universe, and govern all the Parts of it according to his sovereign Pleasure, as He can support and direct any single Atom of Matter. "Hast thou not known, hast thou not heard, as the Prophet *Isaiab* sublimely speaks upon this Argument, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the Ends of the Earth, fainteth not neither is weary"!

THERB

THERE was a Time, so to speak, when God was alone, and nothing existed but himself ; there was then no Power but his own ; and whatever Power has existed since, was communicated by him, and so must forever be absolutely dependant upon him : and could we suppose any Creature capable of resisting in the least Degree the Execution of his Purposes ; (which indeed is absurd) He could as easily withdraw that Power by annihilating the Creature, as he at first gave it.

VERY irrational then and unworthy the Name of Philosophy was the Notion of the Epicureans, who fancied it would greatly interrupt the Tranquility and Happiness of the Deity to have the Government of the World in his own Hands ; and accordingly provided him a calm Retreat far above this busy Scene, where none of the Affairs of it might weary or perplex him. In this Manner they consulted the Ease of their Gods at the Expence of their Honor ; and under the Notion of representing them as per-

perfectly happy, destroyed the Foundation of religious Worship. Was God indeed confined to any particular Place, or his Power bounded, as they absurdly imagined, they might have done this with more Appearance of Truth; but since the Heav'n of Heavens cannot contain him, and he can be excluded from no Part of the Universe, and since wherever he is, that Power that created the World, always accompanies him, all Things must not only be possible but equally easy to him.

Gop stands at the Head of his own vast Creation ; the countless Ranks of Creatures that croud the Universe, compose his Host and attend his Orders ;---In him they live and move, and have their Being.---Things appear or disappear at his Word, his Nod, his Smiles or his Frowns. It is thus that the sacred Scriptures represent to us the irresistible Energy of the divine Will. “ By the Word of the Lord were the Heavens made, and all the Hosts of them by the Breath of his

Mouth ; He spake and it was done ; He commanded and they stood fast. He looketh on the Earth and it trembleth ; He uttereth his Voice and it melteth !”

AND if we would warm and fill our Minds with the most lively and striking Descriptions of God's Power and Dominion, we shall find them in the inspired Writings. “ Before the Day was I am he ; I will work and who shall let it ! I form the Light and I create Darknes ; I make Peace and I create Evil, I the Lord do all these Things. Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord, or being his Counsellor hath taught him ! Behold the Nations are as a Drop of a Bucket, and are counted as the small Dust of the Balance. When He giveth Quietness who then can make Trouble ? or when He hideth his Face who then can behold him ; whether it be done against a Nation or a Man only ! The Lord hath prepared his Throne in the Heavens and his Kingdom ruleth over all.”

THIS

THIS Power in all it's Operations, has ever been guided and adorned with a Perfection of Wisdom, Righteousness and Goodness, becoming the Proprietor and Lord of all. Nor can we forget how often it has been displayed in Defence of the Church, reduced to the extremest Danger, and ready to expire under the Hand of it's potent Oppressors. How glorious did it appear when it led the Children of *Israel* from their Bondage in *Egypt*? When it visited *Pharaoh* and his Servants with astonishing Plagues; and at last overwhelmed them in a common Destruction? When it led the chosen People thro' the Sea? When it expelled the *Canaanites* before them, and planted them in the promis'd Land? This levell'd the Walls of *Jericho*: this discomfited the Host of *Midian*: this arrested the Sun in his Course to favour *Josbua* in the pursuit of his Enemies; while more were slain by the Hail from Heaven, than by the Sword of *Israel*: this precipitated the haughty Monarch of *Babylon*, the Oppressor of God's People from his exalted Throne,

Throne, and advanced *Cyrus* to be their Shepherd.

NOR has the Arm of God been employed and made bare only for the Defence of the Church of *Israel*. That Power which gave such strong and convincing Attestations to the Divinity of the Gospel at it's first Promulgation, has never wholly deserted the Christian Church. Therefore like the Ark by which it was prefigur'd, it has survived all the Storms that have beat upon it, and been borne above a Deluge of Adversity: therefore like the Bush that burned but was not consumed, it has sustained, it has even increased in the Fire of Persecution.

AND if we consult the History of later Times, shall we find any Reason to complain that the Lord's Hand has been shortened that it could not save? Shall we not on the contrary behold the Providence of God employed, tho' not in a miraculous, yet in a very distinguished Manner, in
De-

Defence of the Church, and in Favour of the Cause of Truth and the Rights of Conscience, against the Usurpation and Tyranny of those who would "say to our Souls bow down that we may go over you," and who affect a Kingdom of Darkness that they may securely "exalt themselves above all that is called God and is worshipped."

WHAT but the divine Arm has supported and defended the Protestant Religion, so wonderful in it's Rise, so small and tender in it's Infancy, and so constantly opposed and persecuted by a formidable Power under the Direction of the most refined and exquisite Policy!--- Happily for our Fathers, and for us, the reformed Religion, founded upon free Inquiry and the Right of private Judgment, and so friendly to the Enlargement of Knowledge, and to that Liberty which never can be too dearly purchased, was early received and cherished in *Great-Britain*. And how remarkably has the same good Providence which
first

first transplanted this Religion into that favoured Island, shielded and preserved it, together with those invaluable Rights and Priviledges which are closely interwoven with it, when they have been threatned with an utter Extirpation by foreign and domestic Foes ?---There was once a Time when even a *British* Monarch would have “ made himself a Captain to lead us back to the Bondage of *Egypt* ”: but when all that was dear to us was brought to the extremest Danger, it pleased the sovereign Power that disposes human Affairs, to effect an happy and surprizing Revolution.---An *Æra* that will ever be remembered with Gratitude to Almighty God by those who have a just Value for the *British* Constitution, and that full Liberty, with which it blesses those who enjoy it †.

WE

† This, says even a *French* Historian, the celebrated M. De *Voltaire*, “ was the true *Æra* of *English* Liberty; the “ Nation represented by it's Parliament now fixed the so “ long contested Bounds betwixt the Prerogative of the “ Crown and the Rights of the People. Henceforth the “ Prince of *Orange* was acknowledged in the greatest “ Part of *Europe* as *William III* Id, lawful King of *England*, “ and accounted the Deliverer of the Nation”.

WE may express, blessed be God in the most open Manner, the warmest Attachment to true Liberty, under the Government of a Prince who has ever defended and cherished it ; who despises the forced Submission of Slaves ; who has long since founded his Empire in the Hearts of his Subjects ; and who esteems it his peculiar Glory to reign over a free, and therefore a great Nation. And the more warmly we are attached to those priviledges which are the Birth-right of *British* Subjects, the more sensible shall we be of our Obligations to the Providence of God, for establishing the Succession to the *British* Crown in the Protestant Illustrious House of *Hanover*, and so constantly defeating all the wicked and unnatural Designs that have been formed against it.

WITH Joy the *British* Nation beholds a bright Pledge of it's future Happiness, in the Royal Progeny of our gracious King, particularly in the *Heir Apparent* now arrived at full Age. We also in these Western Extremities of his Dominion, partake
in

in this Joy, as we largely do in his paternal Care and Protection, and the benign Influences of his Government.

God, " who changes the Times and the Seasons," has been pleased not long since to permit a surprizing Revolution to take Place in the Political System of *Europe*. The House of *Austria*, so much indebted to the *British* Nation, and that had so long opposed the formidable Power of *France*, has lately united itself with it. In this strange and alarming Conjunction, the Safety of *Britain*, of the Protestant Interest, and the Liberties of *Europe*, are closely connected with the Success of our Sovereign's Illustrious Ally, the King of *Prussia*.

HERE then a new and astonishing Series of divine Dispensations opens to our View. What, but the Favour of Heaven has hitherto supported that truly great, but much-endangered Monarch ! Who has not been amazed to see *Prussia*, that a few Years ago made so comparatively small a Figure among the Nations, now bearing

bearing up against so many of the greatest Powers in *Europe*, formidably leagued against it ! The Dominions of this Protestant Prince have long since been seized, and divided, in the Cabinets and Hopes of his Enemies : and had Events turned out according to human Probabilities, and the Decision of the most sharp-sighted Politicians, this cruel Division would before this Time have in Fact taken Place.

How often has he stood as upon the Brink of Destruction, while the Friends of Liberty have trembled, and it's Enemies anticipated a Triumph ! “ But the Arms of his Hands have been made strong, by the Hands of the mighty God of Jacob.” What Plans has he laid ! What Countries has he travers'd ! What Toils has he endured ! What Dangers has he faced ! What Battles has he fought ! What Victories has he gained ! And in what quick Succession have his Triumphs rose ! --- His future Fate is in the Councils of Heaven ; but as we are constrained to own the Providence of God in his past

D Success.

Success, we humbly hope that the same Power will still give Strength to his Arm, and Conquest to his Sword.

WHILE our Eyes are turned towards *Germany*, we cannot but take particular Notice of the signal Salvation which God has been pleased to afford to his Majesty's Dominions in that Empire. Our old and enraged Enemy attacked *Hanover*, to avenge itself on *Britain*. But this Measure, as much as they were ready to promise themselves from it, has hitherto proved the Means of increasing their Defeats and Disgraces. Twice have His Majesty's Troops, with those of His Allies, under the Conduct of the victorious *Ferdinand*, rescued this devoted Country from the cruel Power of *France*. Twice has that mighty Army, the Pride and Strength of this aspiring and oppressive Monarchy, been vanquished and broken by much inferior Numbers.

No one can be insensible of the Importance of these Successes to the Protestant Interest in general, and particularly to the
British

British Nation, and it's Dependencies. Who of us did not feel for our gracious Sovereign, and his *German* Subjects, while they suffered so much, and were in Danger of a repeated and still greater Desolation *! We cannot therefore but rejoice at their Deliverance, and the Abasement of that Power, which has so long sought the Destruction of *Britain*.---The Figure and Influence of *France* must be greatly diminished by these Defeats; and it has lost the Prospect of those Advantages with which it hoped to negotiate.

I forbear to mention the valuable Acquisitions with which our Arms have been blest, in *Africa*, and the *West-Indies*. Nor shall I attempt to reckon up our Naval Conquests, which have so much lessened the
Marine

- * What *Hanover* would have suffered from the *French*, had their Arms prevailed this Year, is manifested to the World from a Letter of the Marshal Duc de Belleisle, Master of the Department of War, to Marshal Contades, Commander of the Army, printed in the *London Gazette*, of *August* 18, in which it is advised, after penetrating the Country, not only to draw large Contributions of Money, and all kinds of Subsistence for the Army, but also to make a down-right *Désart* before their Quarters, leaving only a bare Subsistence for the Troops in their future Route.

Marine Power of the Enemy, and augmented our own : tho' that important one § of which we have lately received the News, deserves to be particularly mentioned, as it makes a large Accession to our present Joy. These Conquests, great as they have been, are owing to the Favour of that Being who is the sole Monarch of the Ocean, where even the *British* Navy cannot triumph, without the Aid of His Providence.

If we turn our Eyes to this dear Land of our Nativity, and consider it's Circumstances from the Beginning to this happy Day, how many affecting Interpositions of Heaven in our Favour do we behold ! ---Our Progenitors, smitten with a Love of Liberty, and possessed with an uncommon Reverence to the Dictates of Conscience, transplanted themselves into the Wilds of *America*. In this Emigration God was their Guide, and their Defence. The Settlement of this Country, and our Affairs

§ The Capture and Destruction of a great Part of the *Toulon* Squadron, by Admiral *Boscawen*.

Affairs since, do bear perhaps as near an Affinity to those of ancient *Israel*, as any modern Story; so that many Passages in the sacred Writings founded upon the peculiar Circumstances of that People, may with great Propriety be applied to our own.

We pretend not indeed, that Miracles have been wrought for us; but we piously ascribe our Rise, our Preservation, and all our Prosperity, to that Being “who plants and plucks up” Kingdoms and States, according to his sovereign Pleasure. We have often been chastised by our Enemies; and yet, where is the Mountain, or Wood, the Lake, or Stream, that cannot Witness to some Appearance of divine Providence in our Favour? “We have heard with our Ears, O God, and our Fathers have told us, what thou did’st for them in their Day: and as we have heard, so have we seen the Salvation of God. Many a Time have they afflicted us from our Youth, may we now say, many a Time have they afflicted us from
our

our Youth, yet have they not prevailed; the Ploughers ploughed upon our Back, they made long their Furrows. The Lord is righteous, who has cut asunder the Cords of the Wicked."

God who "holds in his Hand the Hearts of Kings, and turneth them as the Rivers of Water are turned," has been pleased to inspire the Breast of our Sovereign with a peculiar Concern for his *American Dominions*, with the safety of which, the Dignity of his Crown, and the Power and Commerce of *Great-Britain* are so closely connected. He has seen, He has felt, the cruel Ravages which we have suffered, and the total Desolation with which we have been threatned, from an Enemy unprovoked, unless by our Growth and Prosperity.

At a Juncture so critical to us, and to the whole Nation, the Councils of our Sovereign have been remarkably guided and inspirited by Heaven; and his powerful Arm has been stretched out for our Defence.

fence. These Colonies were a principal Object of those wise and vigorous Measures, that have given to the World so respectable and lasting an Idea of the *British* Policy and Power. How chearfully has our Mother Country employed her Riches and Strength for the Preservation of her tender and exposed Off-spring! What Fleets and Armies have been sent for our Rescue! An Obligation which ought ever to be remembered with filial Respect, and the warmest Gratitude.

To the *British* Forces we have chearfully joined our own Aid, even to the utmost of our Ability. And perhaps it may be deemed an Excess of Modesty upon this Point, only to say, that in the late important Crisis, this Province has not come behind any other in Demonstrations of Loyalty to our Sovereign, and of Zeal and Perseverance in the common Cause. This united Force has been conducted with so much Prudence, Resolution and Success, that we cannot but behold with a pleasing Astonish-

Astonishment the present Aspect of our Affairs.

— If we look back to the last War, though God was pleased to honor a *New-English* Army, under the Conduct of *Sir William Pepperrell*, whose Memory deserves a lasting Respect, with the Reduction of *Louisbourg*, yet even after this, we could scarce maintain a single Fortress in the important Province of *Nova-Scotia*, which now we behold entirely subjected to the Government of his *Britannic Majesty*.

THE Conquest of *Louisbourg*, for the Reddition of which *France* sacrificed so many Acquisitions in *Europe*, and for the Defence of which she appeared so anxious, crowned our Arms the last Year. A Conquest that will ever do Honor to the present Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in *North-America*, and consecrate the Name of *Amberst* to Posterity. Nor was it long after this, that the Reduction of *Frontenac*, and our taking Possession of the Territory where *Du Quesne* once

once stood; happily closed the *Western Service*;

Still have our Arms, through the Favour of Heaven, continued to advance. What a Variety of successful Services, and important Acquisitions, croud and adorn this distinguished Year! *Niagara, Carri- lon*, the formidable Lines where we suffered so severe a Repulse. the last Campaign, and *Fort Frederic*, have added fresh Laurels to our victorious Leader, and his brave Army.---

Thus have we glanced at some of the Dispensations of Heaven in Favour of the Church in general, the *Protestant* Interest, and the *British* Nation and it's Dependencies, which demand our religious Attention, and grateful Acknowledgments. And how deep is the Respect which we owe to that Being, who holds the Helm of the World in his Hand, and guides it through all Changes and Revolutions; who presides over all our personal and

E public

public Affairs ; who ruleth in the Kingdoms and States of Men ; appointing their Date ; prescribing their Bounds ; determining their relative Strength ; and dispensing to them that Measure of Prosperity, or Adversity, which he pleases ! How well does it become us to be sensible of our Dependance upon him for every future public Favour ; and of our Obligations to him for every Degree of public Happiness which we have received ! He expects that we pierce through the Veil of outward Appearances, and second Causes, and discern his Almighty Hand guiding the Movements of all Nature, and producing the Success in which we rejoice.

God's Providence superintends and determines the doubtful Events of War. The Means of Victory, and the Blessing which renders these Means effectual, are both derived from him. That great Distinction which appears among Men with Respect to martial Accomplishments, and the different Advantages for War, which
different

different Nations possess, are ultimately to be resolved into the divine Will. From whom does the Warrior derive his Conduct and Prowess, his Abilities and Success, but from Him, "Who formeth the Spirit of Man within him";---from Him, who raised up *Moses* to lead *Israel* from their Bondage in *Egypt*, and *Joshua* to conduct them into *Canaan*; who called *David* from the Tent of a Shepherd to encounter the Pride of *Philistia*, and the Terror of *Israel*, and afterwards made him so illustrious a Commander and Prince.

ACCORDINGLY this devout, tho' great and successful Warrior, often ascribes to God his military Accomplishments, and the Success with which they were adorned, and rendered so conspicuous. "It is God that girdeth me with Strength, and maketh my Way perfect. He teacheth my Hands to War, so that a Bow of Steel is broken by my Arms. By Thee have I run through a Troop, and by my God have I leaped over a Wall. Thou hast given me the Shield of thy Salvation; thy
right

right Hand hath holden me up, and thy Gentleness hath made me great. The Lord liveth, and blessed be my Rock, and let the God of my Salvation be exalted."

THE successful Commander, like the *Per-
sian* Prince of old, is conducted by the powerful, though invisible Hand of the Lord of Hosts ! " He goes before him, and makes the crooked Places strait, and the rough Places smooth : He cuts in sunder the Gates of Brass, and breaks in Pieces the Bars of Iron ; and gives him the Treasures of Darkness, and hidden Treasures of secret Places !"

GOD does not in these Days give us Success by controuling the Laws of Nature, and reversing the common Course of Causes and Effects. But in the Estimation of sound Reason his Agency is as really concerned, though not so apparently, in what is called common Success, as in those prosperous Events that have been attended with miraculous Circumstances. There are a thousand Contingencies upon which the
Health

Health and Supply of Armies depend; a thousand Circumstances that influence their Counsels, exalt or depress their Courage, and determine their Operations and Success, which no human Sagacity can foresee, no human Power can control, but which fall within the Providence of that Being, by whom the "very Hairs of our Head are all numbered."

It was therefore a foolish as well as impious Saying, said to be uttered by a *French* Commander, that "Providence always favours an hundred Thousand Men": meaning, that notwithstanding the Influence of divine Providence, the strongest Army might be sure of Success. God frequently reminds Men of his own Superintendency over these great Affairs, by disappointing the most rational Expectations, or by granting Success much beyond our Hopes. When opposite Armies are contending in the Field, "He who sitteth upon the Circle of the Earth" holds the Scales in which they are weighed, and
points

points to the Side where hovering Victory
does at length rest.

To Him then let us offer up our united
and thankful Acknowledgments for that
great and happy Event that has occasioned
this Day's Gladness. It is for this, that
we are now assembled in the House of
God, under the Countenance and at the
Call of Civil Authority. "O come then,
let us worship and bow down, let us kneel
before the Lord our Maker : Let us en-
ter into his Gates with Thanksgiving, and
into his Courts with Praise : let us be
thankful unto Him, and bless His Name :
for the Lord is great, and greatly to be
praised.

I find myself at a Loss for Words upon
this memorable Occasion. I know not
how to express the Importance of that
Success with which it has pleased God to
bless His Majesty's Arms : and yet I feel
it ; and so I doubt not does every one in
this Assembly. Joy sparkles in every Eye :
Triumph

Triumph fits upon every Face. But when the Bosom swells with an unusual Tide of Gladness, it is harder to paint what we feel in suitable Expressions, than upon more common Occasions.

God has heard our Prayers, and those of our Progenitors --- We behold the Day which they desired to see, but saw it not --- We have received a Salvation from Heaven, greater perhaps than any since the Foundation of the Country --- The Power of *Canada* is broken --- It's Capital is reduced; and the *British* Banners float triumphant upon the Walls of *Quebec*.

STRUCK with this News, we were like the Disciples who "believed not for Joy"; and were ready to adopt the Language of the antient redeemed Church; "When the Lord turned again the Captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream: then was our Mouth filled with Laughter, and our Tongue with Singing: then said they among the Heathen the Lord hath done

done great Things for them. The Lord hath done great Things for us whereof we are glad."

LET us then consecrate the gladness of our Hearts to God ; and return to him in devout Praises and Thanksgivings, that full Joy which He has bestowed upon us, remembering that we triumph in his Power and not in our own. Give unto the Lord, O ye Kindreds of the People, give unto the Lord Glory and Strength : give unto the Lord the Glory due unto his Name : for his right Hand, and his holy Arm hath gotten the Victory.

BUT God, we know, governs the World in a mediate Way. His Providence does not destroy or supersede the free Actions of Men : and in accomplishing his own great Designs, he employs those great Qualities with which he has inspired some of the human Race. Religion therefore is very far from forbidding us to shew a subordinate Regard to those, whose faithful Services have been crowned with this glorious

rious Acquisition. Every vertuous Sentiment leads us to pay Respect to the Guardians of our Possessions, our Liberties, and our Religion. Nor will the unavoidable Sensations of our own Bosoms allow us, to forbear testifying our Gratitude and Esteem for those, whose Toils and Dangers have largely contributed to our Security and Happiness. Even the inspired Song of *Deborah*, omits not to give particular Honors to those brave Men, who by the Blessing of Heaven, obtained the Victory which it celebrates.

How then can we be silent in the Praises of that General, and that Army, who, under God, have given us this Day's Triumph; and who will henceforth be ranked among those distinguished Leaders; and those "firm and immoveable Battalions, which Providence employs to determine the Fate of Kingdoms and Provinces."

THE whole Conduct of this Enterprize, according to the Opinion of much better

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Judges

Judges in these Matters, than I pretend to be, has afforded the brightest Proofs of all military Accomplishments. No Difficulty has arisen in this arduous Service, superior to the Skill of the Leader; nor any Danger, great enough to quell the Resolution and Ardor of the Troops: for they had One at their Head, who knew how to infuse something of his own Spirit into an Army, and was capable of inspiring Intrepidity into more timorous Breasts than those of *British* Soldiers: like the great *Hannibal*, who only demanded Men, and undertook himself to make them brave.

COURAGE is the most brilliant Quality to common Eyes, as it is truly the Basis of a Soldier. But had this necessary Quality been found alone at the Head of our small Army, it never could have undertaken and effected such various Services, for which it was so often divided, without giving some fatal Advantage to a numerous and watchful Foe.

HERE

HERE then that Conduct shone, which strikes with Admiration the Judicious; and marks the great Captain.---A Sagacity and Prudence, sufficiently animated, but not disturbed or over-borne, by that martial Ardor, so natural to the Breast of Heroes.

As soon as General *Walfe* had disembarked his Army, "He gained upon the Enemy even without a Battle, and never for a Moment quitted his Superiority."---At length, by a Motion, prudent as it was bold, meritorious as it was successful, He drew the *French* much superior in Numbers, from their inaccessible Intrenchments, and obtained that great and decisive Victory, which was soon followed with the Surrender of *Quebec*.

WHEN we consider the Situation of his Service, in the Heart of *Canada*; the comparative Smallness of his Force, and the Manner in which he employed it, must we not acknowledge, that he had made a successful and shining Campaign,
even

even before the *Thirteenth of September*? But what an Accession of Glory to himself, of Service to his Prince, and Felicity to his Country, did that Day afford! --- That memorable Day, not only exhibited the Superiority of *British* Courage, but shewed a young *British* Commander, who had never before been at the Head of an Army, vanquishing by superiority of Skill, an experienced and successful General of *France*.

BUT is there not something that seems to shade the Lustre of this Day of public Rejoicing, and to abate it's Triumph? Do not some involuntary Sighs, some unbidden Groans escape from us, and strangely mix themselves with the Voice of Thanksgiving, and the Acclamations of Joy? And yet Heaven was pleased to grant us all this Success, with the Loss of much fewer of our brave Officers and Men than we could have rationally hoped.

BUT

But who was among the Slain?—
 Alas! that great Leader to whom we are
 so much indebted for this Day's Joy, does
 not live to partake it. He was not spared
 to wear the Laurels he had purchased; to
 receive and enjoy the Plaudit of his Sovereign;
 the solemn Thanks of his Country; and the
 Acclamations of a whole Nation. He lived
 indeed, to see the important Service he had
 undertaken, much dearer to him than Life,
 happily accomplished.— He lived to see the
 collected Force of the Enemy broken, and
 fleeing before him.— He expired in the Arms
 of Conquest; and filled with *Britain's* Prosperity
 and Glory, he “smiled in Death.”

He died to live in the Hearts of *Britons*,
 and especially in the Hearts of *British Americans*,
 who are so peculiarly interested in this
 Conquest.—He died to live in the Annals
 of his Country, distinguished with the
 brightest Beams of Glory. There his
 Character will adorn that Nation, his
 Services to which will never be forgotten.—
 Do we wish that he had been

been more sparing of his great Life ? And would we lessen his Merit ?---What are all the fading Honors of this mortal State, when compared to that heavenly Palm, with which such important public Services, founded upon proper Principles, can never fail to be Rewarded !

To us it belongs, in all proper Ways, to express our Gratitude to Almighty God, for accomplishing such a Leader, and placing him at the Head of our Forces employed in an Enterprize of so much Consequence ; and for honouring with such surprizing Success, this Servant of the Public, " this Minister of Heaven for Good. " --- Many *British* Warriors will, we trust, be formed by his great Example, and emulate his Glory.

Let us then at the present Occasion demands, consider, not so much what God has taken from us, as what he has given us. How pleasing a Prospect does now present itself to us ! What fair Hopes have

have we of being compleatly delivered from that Enemy, that has so often interrupted our Tranquility, and checked our Growth ! What Scenes of Happiness are we ready to figure to ourselves, from the Hope of enjoying, in this good Land, all the Blessings of an undisturbed and lasting Peace ! From the Hope of seeing our Towns enlarged ; our Commerce increased ; and our Settlements extending themselves with Security on every Side, and changing a Wilderness into a fruitful Field ! Do we not also anticipate the Happiness of Posterity, to whom we are like to transmit this fair Inheritance, with Improvements, and a Security, unknown to our Fathers ?

THE Worth of this Conquest will appear greatly enhanced, if we reflect upon the Character of the Enemy which we have so far subdued --- An inveterate and implacable Enemy to our Religion and Liberties ; inflamed with *Romish* Bigotry ; perfidious, restless, politic, and enterprising : An Enemy that has ever made War against us in a Manner shocking to Humanity :

manity : that has so envied our superior Advantages and Growth, as to deem any Methods just by which we could be distressed ; and has accordingly long employed the Barbarity of Savages to drench our Borders with the Blood of the unarmed Villager, and even of Women and Infants.

Common Humanity, and much more those Sentiments which Christianity inspires, teach us to pity them under their present Calamities. But when we reflect upon their past Insolence, and Cruelty, heightened, we may suppose by a Persuasion that their Country was inaccessible to us, we cannot but adore the Righteousness of Heaven in this signal Chastisement. Yet we rejoice to find that no Distress has been wantonly brought upon them ; and that they have been spared as much as the Necessity of the Service would allow. May the *British* Forces still be distinguished by Intrepidity and Success in the Field, and Generosity to the vanquished !

MORE

More than once, after large Preparations, and with much Expence, have we enterprized an Invasion of *Canada*, and been disappointed : which renders this Conquest more worthy our Attention, and must heighten our religious Gratitude. Looking back upon these fruitless Expeditions, we remember the Disaster which, in one of them, befell our Fleet ; from whence arose a formidable Apprehension of the Navigation of the River St. *Lawrence*. But this Difficulty, and every other relative to the Naval Part of this Enterprize, have been surmounted by the Conduct and Resolution of Admiral *Saunders*, whose Services, with those of his brave Officers and Seamen, happily conspiring with the Operations of the Army, greatly contributed to their Success.

It is not easy to reckon up all the Circumstances that concur, to increase a Sense of our Obligations to Almighty God, for thus humbling our Enemies, and advancing the *British* Empire in A-

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merica. If we reverse the Scene, and imagine our Army defeated, what Dejection, what Pain of Heart would have been found in the Room of this Gladness ! Nor are we supposing an Impossibility. Nothing great and decisive in War is to be expected without Hazard. The Services to which our Army was called were dangerous. But Heaven was pleased to succeed them, and to determine this unequal and doubtful Battle in our Favour.---
 “Sing, then, unto the Lord for he hath triumphed gloriously. In thy Name will we rejoice all the Day, and in thy Favour our Horn shall be exalted. The Lord is our Strength and Song ; He also is become our Salvation.”

MAY Religion preside over the Joy of this Day, and Gratitude to God exalt it. There are some Civil Demonstrations of Gladness, that the Occasion demands ; but the Joy is too great, it is too sacred, to be affronted by Prophaness, or polluted and debased by Sensuality.

LET

LET us take Occasion from the Gladness of our Hearts to improve our Benevolence ; and to honor the God of our Salvation by doing good to Mankind. And as Charity to the Souls of Men is the greatest, I cannot but express my Wishes, upon this Occasion, that we may not be wanting in our Endeavours to propagate the Gospel, in it's Simplicity and Purity, among the *Indian* Tribes. This, methinks, would be politic, as well as Christian : And our Opportunities for it seem now to be greatly enlarging. But if we imagine the political Necessity is less than ever, are not our Obligations increased from the purer Motive of Gratitude to our divine Benefactor ? And is not this a Service that we owe to our Lord Jesus ; to whom we profess to do peculiar Honor, as the one Mediator, in Opposition to the *Romish* Church which allows many ; and through whose Intercession alone, we believe that our Prayers have been heard, and answered with this great Success ?

MAY

MAY God perfect the Work of Mercy in which we are rejoicing; that the Words of *Moses* to *Israel* may still be more applicable to us : " There is none like unto the God of *Jeshurun*, who rideth on the Heaven in thy Help, and in his Excellency on the Sky. He shall thrust out the Enemy from before thee. *Israel* then shall dwell in Safety alone ; The Fountain of *Jacob* shall be upon a Land of Corn and Wine."

MAY the Goodness of God lead us to an universal Repentance ; and may He give us such a true Sense of our Obligations to him, as shall express itself in every Work of Purity and Righteousness, which the Gospel enjoins upon us ! Let us beware that we do not turn the Kindness of Heaven into Wantonness, and indulge to that Impiety, Sensuality and Licentiousness, which too often attends external Security, and temporal Prosperity. --- It has been remarked, that the Supineness, Sensuality, and Dissoluteness of Manners that invaded *Rome*, after the Destruction of
of

of her Rival, proved more fatal than the Arms of *Carthage*. God forbid that Success should have any such unhappy Effect upon us, and betray us into such Vices, not only in Opposition to every temporal Motive, but also to all the Light and affecting Considerations, which Christianity affords ! Only fear the Lord and serve him in Truth, with all your Heart, for consider what great Things he has done for you."

MAY God still bless the *British* Arms wherever they are employed ! Still may He advance the Cause of Liberty, and pure Religion, till every Nation shall be happy under the Government of the Prince of Peace ; and Truth and Righteousness shall universally prevail !

F I N I S.

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